

This correspondence is submitted in reply to the request for comment on the Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order (NPRM), Docket No. 05-235, release on July 19, 2005 in which the Federal Communications Commission proposes to eliminate the requirement to pass a telegraphy exam to qualify for an amateur radio license.

I hold an Amateur Extra Class license (call sign K3WQ) and I am a member of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL).

I offer the following comments on the NPRM:

Sec. III-A: Amateur Radio Operator Licensing Requirements

I agree that proficiency in Morse code is not indicative of an individual's ability to contribute to the advancement of radio. I therefore support the elimination of a telegraphy exam as a requirement for any class of amateur radio license.

Sec. III-B: Operating Privileges

I agree that granting additional frequency privileges as proposed in several petitions would reduce the incentive to upgrade. I therefore find the Commission's decision to deny requests to modify current license privileges to be reasonable.

Sec. III-C: Number of Amateur Radio Operator License Classes

Although I find some of the proposed license structures to be reasonable alternatives, I find the Commission's decision to deny requests to modify the current license structure to be acceptable.

David M. Drumheller
Bethesda, Maryland
24 July 2005